Radiation & Nuclear Guideline

Inclusion

Suspected radiation exposure & life-threatening injury

Exclusion

Suspected radiation exposure & non-life-threatening injury

BLS

Pre-Decon

- Treat life-threatening injuries prior to decon
- Treatment & transport of critically-injured patients takes priority over decon.

Decon

- Use detector to locate contaminants.
- Identification of contamination & focused removal of contamination may be sufficient.
- Protect yourself!
    - Limit exposure time.
    - Maximize distance from the source.
    - Use appropriate shielding.

BLS/ALS

Post-Decon

- Continue supportive care
- Patients with apparently minor injuries should be transported for evaluation to identify occult trauma.

Special Note:

- Although exposure to radiation can be life-threatening, the effects of radiation exposure are delayed in onset, making treatment of traumatic injuries the priority.

©2022